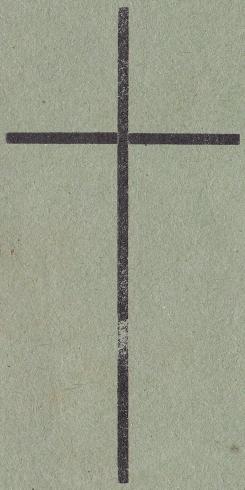
ST. STEPHEN'S CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
MILNROW

The Messenger



NOVEMBER, 1971

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THE MESSENGER

*

THE GREAT DEBATE

On whether we should join the
UNITED REFORMED CHURCH

At Littleborough

on Monday 25th October - a unanimous vote in favour of entry.

At Milnrow

on Wednesday 27th October - 37 to 10 in favour of entry. This figure just produces the necessary majority.

*

NOVEMBER
1971

Price 2p

Friends,

It's a useful exercise every so often to study just where people live in relation to the local church. In these days of private transport, it is nothing outrageous for people to travel up to five miles to church. I know many churches where the congregation are as 'widespread' as this.

Milnrow and Littleborough are still community centred churches and draw mainly on people from a short distance - but things are changing. At Littleborough, our people are having some distance to travel. Newcomers from the Smallbridge, Healey, and Wardle area are a bus ride away from church - as are people who come from Shore, Calderbrook, Summit, Timbercliffe and Limefield. At Milnrow, things are still very centralised and few people live more than half a mile away from church. But as newcomers enter the area, the scope of church work and area visitation could grow. Smithy Bridge is an area growing in size about equidistant from both our churches. People living in the area still have an important part to play in the work which our churches do. The development of a house group in the vicinity, possibly of people from both our churches would be a valuable first step.

This is not just an exercise in statistics. We as churches need to take stock continually of the people we serve. People who live some distance away from our churches must feel in touch with what is going on. At the same time, en extra effort may have to made by such people. The routine of coming to church on Sundays need not be broken if we are determined to make the effort.

The other point arising is the need to be an 'accepting community'. To move from one area to another is in itself an uprooting experience. The 'new' church will take some getting used to. In many cases, the myriad of new faces will be a little bewildering. It takes patience and time

to feel part of things. The way we accept and the way we are accepted are real and significant pointers to the quality of our Christianity. When we accept people, we don't do it just to fill an empty gap in our pew structure. We must accept people with their minds, their ideas and their thoughts. Our tradition or our way of doing things may need reviewing in the light of other people's experiences. This means doing a lot more listening, a lot more learning, and a lot more understanding.

To everyone I would add: If you are present on Sunday mornings, please make use of the 'coffee and chat' after worship - an ideal way of meeting people informally. Let's mark these winter months as a time when we are determined to get to know each other better and to grow together in Christian love.

Yours sincerely,

Glyn Jenkins

++

IN MEMORIAM

Mrs. AMY WILSON of 24 Buckley Hill Lane, passed away suddenly on Sunday 24th October at home, aged 62. The service at St. Stephen's and the Rochdale Crematorium was conducted by our minister on Thursday 28th October. Mrs. Wilson's death came as a shock to us all. She was a much respected deacon and has given valuable service to the Junior Church.
Our sympathy is extended to her sisters: Mrs. Prestwich, Mrs. Smith and Mrs. Buckley and all the relatives.

HOLY BAPTISM

MELINDA BAMFORD of 13 Birch Crescent, Newhey, daughter of Mr. & Mrs. A. Bamford. The baptism took place at St. Stephen's on Sunday 17th October, the Revd. G. Jenkins officiating.

MARRIAGE

Miss BARBARA E. CLEGG of 1 Bramhall Close, Milnrow, to Mr. DEREK FLETCHER of Bury. The wedding took place at St. Stephen's on Saturday, October 2nd, our minister officiating.
Congratulations and good wishes to both.

*

RECEPTION OF CHURCH MEMBERS

At Littleborough on Sunday 10th October:
Mrs. EDITH CRYER of 8 Timbercliffe, Summit.
Mrs. ELIZABETH CRAWFORD of 6 Timbercliffe, Summit.

****

FAMILY READINGS FOR NOVEMBER

Theme: "Living in God's World"

Beginner: Our homes and ourselves
Primary: God made us all.
Juniors: Getting on with people.
Seniors: Who is my neighbour?
Young people: The foundations of right relationships.
Adults: Accountability to God.

Readings:

Oct. 31st Gen. 2: 4, 7-8, 18-24
(Man cannot live alone)
Nov. 7th 1 John 4: 7-16
(Personal relationships)
14th 1 Peter 2: 1-3, 12-17, 3: 8-9
(Life in Community)
21st Matt. 25: 31-46
(The Final Test)
28th Advent Isaiah 61: 1-4, 10-11
(Man's need - God's plan)

MICHAELMAS MARKET

Saturday, 13th November 1971
at 2.30 p.m.

Chairman: Counc. T.E. JENKINS
(Chairman of Milnrow U.D.C.)

Opener: Counc. A. WOOD (Milnrow)

Stalls include: Hardware, Drapery, Footwear, Cosmetics, Chocolate, Holiday Gifts, Bulbs, Home Foods etc., Handicrafts, Grotto.

Teas will be served in the welfare centre for which tickets must first be obtained at the fair.

TURKEY TEA	37½p	Children	17½p
TONGUE TEA	32½p	"	15p
HAM TEA	32½p	"	15p
PLAIN TEA	17½p		

We look forward to your support.

****

MORAL STANDARDS AND TV

In addition to the usual business transacted at the recent executive meeting of the LANCASHIRE CONGREGATIONAL UNION OF THE WOMEN'S GUILD OF CHRISTIAN SERVICE, mention was made of the amount of pornography that enters our homes through the medium of television programmes.

The County secretary was asked to write to the B.B.C. and I.T.V. on behalf of the women of the Congregational Churches of the Lancashire Union, expressing their strong disapproval of the lowering of moral standards in the presentation of programmes.

District secretaries were asked to write to their local press stating that this action had been taken.

GILLON'S GUILD GOES WITH GUSTO

On Wednesday October 6th the Bury & Rochdale District Women's Guild held their autumnal rally at Milnrow, where a short service was conducted by Mrs. E. Gillon, the District President. The Revd. G. Jenkins welcomed the ladies of the district to Milnrow and was also the organist.

Afterwards a social "get together" was held in the schoolroom where a range of entertainment was provided. Mrs, A. Heyworth had us in tucks with her Lancashire Dialect recitations; Yvonne and Valerie Fursey sang delightful songs, and half a dozen of our young Milnrow mothers gave a rendering of some 20th Century Hymns.

Milnrow Guild Secretary, Mrs. Clough, informs us that she has had a letter from Mrs. B. Evans, the District Secretary saying how much the evening was enjoyed and expressing the hope that more meetings of this type should be held. That sounds like a good idea. There is no doubt that the evening was a great success by any standards, and a credit to all those who took part.

DELICATE SUBJECTS AND BIG KNITS

The day before the District Guild meeting 40 ladies enjoyed a demonstration by Mr. R. Anstess who runs a delicatessen in Shaw. Millionaire families in the congregation have been dining on caviar and frogs legs ever since.

You are asked to note the following events:-

1. Friday 26th Nov. Jumble Sale.
2. Tuesday 7th Dec. Christmas Dinner at the "Royal Toby" Castleton. Cost £1.92½ to be paid to Mrs. C. Rothwell before 28th November. Ladies wishing to go should let Mrs. C.Clough have their name before the 28th November. The coach will leave the church at 7.30 p.m.
3. Ladies Guild sponsored knit is being planned for the new year. You are asked to start saving double knitting wool now.

/C.C.W.M./

The Musical Evening organised by the Missionary Committee of the Rochdale Local Group of Congregational Churches on Wednesday 20th October in the Milton Congregational Church was very well supported and appreciated.

A wide selection of music given by the Rochdale Salvation Army Band and Choir included traditional Brass Band music featuring individual instruments, marches, sacred and classical music. Songs were beautifully rendered by the choir accompanied by David Appleton who also gave a pianoforte solo, playing an Impromptu by Chopin.

We are grateful to them for coming along and contributing their time and talent towards our effort for World Mission Funds. The proceeds of this most enjoyable evening amounted to over £16.

****

SPONSORED SWIM

The final result of the sponsored swim is still not at hand. Up to date the figures are:

LITTLEBOROUGH	£93.53	(more to come)
MILNROW	£24.54	(final figure)
MILTON	£ 9.00	(more to come)
Cost of Baths	£ 5.00	(paid)

Congratulations and thanks to all whose who contributed towards this effort for World Mission.

Will swimmers for Littleborough who have not handed in money, please see Mr. Tomlinson as soon as possible.

++

From the personal column of The Times:
"Urgently required, a kindly Christian to replace worn-out Persian altar carpet in tiny Episcopalian Highland Church."

This was the theme of a festival service presented by the children of the Junior Church at our Harvest Festival services. The Junior Church choir led the singing of folk songs and modern hymns and the Primary contributed with "Stamp and Shout." Other features of the service, which was conducted by our minister, included a poem, a mimed play and a book presentation to Mr. F.G. Simpson in recognition of his 25 years of service to the Junior Church and Sunday School. The organist was Mr. L.W. Greaves at both services and in the evening gifts of fruit and flowers were distributed to the sick and elderly.

A LETTER FROM MR. SIMPSON

"I suppose that to all who teach, it is their sincere hope that they play a part in influencing those they have taught and I am sure this is the hope in our Junior Church.

It was with great humility, pleasure and surprise that I received a book, certificate and congratulations of so many people on my completion of 25 years in our school and Junior Church. I take this opportunity to thank those who contributed towards the book, to Mr. Jenkins for his kind words and to all who expressed their best wishes.

There are many who have been helpful over the years, too many to name, but I will never forget the encouragement from Mr. Ramsden, the help of Mrs. Hancock and Mrs, Whitehead and the co-operation of all teachers over the years at times when numbers were few and the survival of the Sunday School was in doubt. Now since the introduction of Family Church, teachers are called upon to do so much more but it is done with such devotion that it is a pleasure to be one of them.

If in these 25 years, I have in some small measure helped to influence some of the children who have passed through our hands, then I thank God for the privilege of being allowed to serve Him."

With sincere thanks,

F.G. Simpson

FILM EVENING

" A very enjoyable evening" was the main comment after the Family Film night at Littleborough on Friday October 22nd. The first part of the trilogy of films "A Life of Christ" was shown. After the film, Pilots gave a report and 'demonstration' on the 1971 Pilot Camp held in August at BARNSTON DALE. This was introduced by Stephen Moss and included songs (African, Negro Spiritual and English) and a sketch "The Maternity Waiting Room." The evening ended with 2 hymns, one chosen by Mr. J. Nairn and the other was a new tune to an old hymn.
The next Family Film Evening is November 12th 7.0 pm. - 8.30 p.m. There will be entertainment of a special kind, we hope, at this.

****

REVEREND TAFFY STRIKES AGAIN

The Fellowship President, Revd. G. Jenkins, was the speaker for the first meeting of the Men's Fellowship this season. His topic was "Music From Wales" and he illustrated it with recordings, definitions of Welsh names and some interesting experiences. After a vote of thanks by Mr.Barker, members adjourned to the chippy.

****

BEST WISHES.....

.....To our minister, Rev. G. Jenkins on his induction as president of the Bury & Rochdale District of the Lancashire Congregational Union.

.....To Mr. Allan Roberts on his forthcoming induction as president of the Rochdale Local Group of Congregational Churches.
Service to be held at Milnrow on Monday, 29th November.

****

UNITED SERVICE

at

LITTLEBOROUGH

Sunday 12th December at 11.0 am.

Revd. G. Jenkins B.A., B.D.

A hearty welcome to all Milnrow friends

Notice outside Harrogate Hospital:
"Danger! Guard dogs operating."

THE QUEEN BEE

Dorothy Mallinson
invites the workers to an

"AT HOME"

in her hive at
3, Stansfield Hall, Calderbrook

on

Tuesday 2nd November at 8.0 pm.

Notice displayed outside a garage:
"Body builders - Hands wanted."

ANOTHER QUEEN BEE

Avis Merrick
similarly invites you
to
71, Lake Bank, Hollingworth Lake
on

Tuesday 7th December at 8.0 pm.

PILOTS AT CAMP

Reports by two members of the Littleborough Pilot Co.

"At camp we had a camp fire we were singing camp-songs. The Littleborough church didn't know the songs, so we asked the men if we could sing camp songs we knew. After we went back and had canteen we went to bed later than quarter past ten. The first night we were very noisy but the other night we were all quiet. When we were going home we were all crying but they soon stopped."

.....Wendy Law

*

"We arrived at about 4-15 on Saturday. Some of the Littleborough pilots where already there. We were directed to a long white building. Inside there was the general hustle and bustle, voices coming from everywhere. Our beds were near the end so we had a long way to walk. When all the beds were made and we were organised a bell went for tea. After tea we were all put in watches. These watches were to do some chores a day, my watch was on washing up. This was when I met my first new friend, she was called Wendy and had a friend called Carol. The next day went a bit more smoothly with morning prayers followed with games, work etc. After the first few days we all got to know each other. The days went by and everybody enjoyed themselves. Working for badges, learning about missionary work and other things like that.....
.....Esther, Wendy, Carol and I decided to have a bash at tree-climbing. Carol and I didn't go far as it was slippy. Wendy and Esther carried on. You can imagine what happened, they got stuck. Never the less we all had a wonderful time. It was one of the best holidays you could wish to have. We would all gladly go again."

.....Elizabeth Leach

CHURCH DUTIES - MILNROW

FAMILY WORSHIP DOOR STEWARDS

Nov. 7th	Mrs. F. Whitworth	Mrs. J. Duffy
14th	Mrs. F. Butterworth	Mr. H. Mellor
21st	Mr. D. Fursey	Mr. R. Gillon
28th	Counc. J. Harrison	Counc. I. Royle
Dec. 5th	Mrs. A. Collins	Mr. J. Collins

DEACONS ROTA

	EVENING DOOR STEWARDS	PIANIST EVENING WORSHIP
Nov. 7th	Mr. H. Whitehead	Mrs. E. Starkie
14th	Mr. G. Whitworth Mr. K. Hey	Mrs. C. Hey
21st	Mrs. E. Starkie Mrs. E. Gillon	Mr. J. Emmott
28th	Mr. B. Clough Mr. J. Emmott	Mr. D. Logan
Dec. 5th	Miss M. Wood Mr. G. Whitworth	Mrs. E. Starkie

COMMUNION ROTA

Nov. 7th	Mrs. A. Whitworth	Mrs. N. Settle
21st	Mr. B. Clough	Miss M. Wood (a.m.)
Dec. 5th	Mr. J. Emmott	Mr. K. Hey

FAMILY CHURCH COFFEE ROTA

Nov. 7th	Mrs. Prestwich	Mrs. J. Kay
14th	Mrs. H. Buckley	Mrs. E. Smith
21st	Miss M. Wood	Miss A. Clegg
28th	Mrs. J. Duffy	Mrs. F. Butterworth
Dec. 5th	Mrs. W. Prince	Mrs. W. Holland

Persons unable to take their appointments as listed are expected to find a suitable substitute.

COMMUNION TABLE FLOWERS

Nov. 7th	Miss A. Memory
14th	Mrs. Brocklehurst
21st	Mrs. Hanson
28th	Counc. D. Nunn
Dec. 5th	Mrs. J. Calow & Mrs. Clowes

MILNROW DIARY

November

Mon.	1st	6.30 pm.	Pilots (and each Monday)
Tues.	2nd	7.30 pm.	Ladies Guild: Mr. C. Connelly
Fri.	5th	7.30 pm.	Rochdale Christian Education Council A.G.M.
Sun.	7th	11.00 am.	Junior Church Presentation Sunday - Revd. G. Jenkins
		6.00 pm.	Communion "
Wed.	10th	7.30 pm.	Deacons Meeting
Sat.	13th	2.30 pm.	MICHAELMAS MARKET (See page 5) Chairman: Counc. T.E. Jenkins Opener: Counc. Mrs. E. Wood
Sun.	14th	11.00 am.	Mr. D.S. Nuttall
		6.00 pm.	Mr. J. Lord
Mon.	15th	8.00 pm.	"21 Club" (Men only) Inaugural meeting
Wed.	17th	7.30 pm.	Choir Meeting
Sun.	21st	11.00 am.	Family Communion
		6.00 pm.	Revd. G. Jenkins
Mon.	22nd	8.00 pm.	Junior Church Staff Meeting
Wed.	24th	8.00 pm.	Church Meeting
Fri.	26th	7.00 pm.	Junble Sale: Ladies Guild
Sun.	28th	11.00 am.	Counc. W. Edwards J.P.
		6.00 pm.	Film Service: "Life of Christ" (2) The Ministry.
Mon.	29th	7.30 pm.	Rochdale Local Group of Cong. Churches A.G.M. at Milnrow. Induction of Mr.A. Roberts as President.

COLLECTIONS

Aug.	1st	£22.92	Sept.	5th	£14.54
	8th	17.15		12th	27.92
	15th	17.47		19th	27.65
	22nd	25.24		26th	20.43
	29th	22.89			

The minister will be on holiday from Monday 29th November to Sunday 5th December.

November

Mon.	1st	7.30 pm.	Teacher's Meeting
Tues.	2nd	8.00 pm.	Busy Bees' "At Home"
Thur.	4th	6.30 pm.	Pilots
Sun.	7th	10.30 am.	Mr. J. M. Farraday J.P.
Thur.	11th	6.30 pm.	Pilots
Fri.	12th	7.00 pm.	Family Film Evening
Sun.	14th	10.30 pm.	Rev. G. Jenkins
		6.00 pm.	" (Communion)
Mon.	15th	7.45 pm.	Deacons Meeting
Thur.	18th	6.30 pm.	Pilots
Sun.	21st	10.30 pm.	Mr. S. Hazelhurst (Bamford)
Thur.	25th	6.30 pm.	Pilots
		8.00 pm.	Men's Fellowship -Counc.A.Davies (New Boundary Commission)
Sun.	28th	10.30 am.	Rev. G. Jenkins (Family Communion)
Mon.	29th	7.30 pm.	Rochdale Local Group of Cong. Churches A.G.M. at Milnrow. Induction of Mr.A. Roberts as President.
Sun.	5th	10.30 am.	Mr. W. Caffrey (Heywood)

COMMUNION TABLE FLOWERS

Nov. 7th	Mrs. Walls
14th	Mrs. Worthington
21st	Provided
28th	Mrs. Walls
Dec. 5th	Mrs. E. Holt

OFFERTORIES

Sept. 19th	£ 8.91
26th	29.41
Oct. 3rd	10.02
10th	13.50
17th	8.00

The Minister will be on holiday from Monday 29th November to Sunday 5th December.

CHURCH DUTIES - LITTLEBOROUGH

SIDESMEN

Nov. 7th	Mr. Booth	Mr. H. Hill	
14th	Mr. Ingham	Mr. Barker	10.30 am.
	Mr. Holt	Mr. Simpson	6.00 pm.
21st	Mr. Nairn	Mr. Beattie	
28th	Mr. Hill	Mr. Barker	
Dec. 5th	Mr. Booth	Mr. Ingham	

DEACONS COMMUNION ROTA

Nov. 14th	Mr. Beattie	Mr. Nairn	6.00 pm.
Nov. 28th	Mr. Griffiths	Mr. Simpson	10.30 pm.

CRECHE ROTA

Nov. 7th	Mrs. J. Hobbs
14th	Mrs. Tomlinson
21st	Mrs. J. Simpson
28th	Mrs. E. Crawford
Dec. 5th	Mrs. W. Sprinks

COFFEE ROTA

Nov. 7th	S. Moss	B. Hartley
14th	B. Griffiths	V. Crossley
21st	D. Mallinson	A. Tomlinson
28th	J. Law	E. Booth
Dec. 5th	J. Simpson	A. Merrick

****

FAMILY CHURCH READINGS

Nov. 7th	"Personal Relationships" 1 John 4: v7-12	Mrs. M. Hill
14th	"Life in Community" 1 Peter 2: v1 -10	Martin Law
21st	"The Final Test" Matt. 25: v31 -36	Esther Bennet
28th	Advent "Man's Need - God's Law" Isaiah 61: v1 -11	Mrs. Lightfoot
Dec. 5th	"The Plan Fulfilled" Luke 2: v1 -14	Steven Moss

ST. STEPHEN'S CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, MILNROW

and

THE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, LITTLEBOROUGH

*

MINISTER:

Revd. Glyn Jenkins B.A., B.D.,
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Tel: ROCHDALE 50161

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Mr. Allan Roberts,
54 Beechfield Road,
Milnrow.
Tel: ROCHDALE 42243

LITTLEBOROUGH

Mr. W. Griffiths,
63 Shore Mount,
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